
From: Samantha Kelly
Sent: 25 September 2006 13:58
To: Mike Connelly; Suzanne Waugh
Subject: Correspondence with Richard Bourne

Dear Mike & Suzanne,

Below is an email received from Richard Bourne, and my suggested response (wording provided by Andy Dixon and signed off by Paul Wilson).

Andy Conway at CEC, and Cllr Iain Whyte have both requested a copy of our response. Can you let me know if you're comfortable with it?

Thanks, S.

Dear Richard,

It was good to talk to you on Friday and, as promised, I have now discussed your email of the 20th with the System Design Services team.

They have stressed that the design process is essentially an iterative process: each element is being designed in the light of other elements, and the impact of each element on the others is then assessed to see whether there is any need to revisit aspects of the design as the process moves forward.

The designers are well aware of the need to mitigate the noise impacts of the tram in line with the provisions of the Noise and Vibration Policy, and are taking this into account throughout the design process. The design of noise mitigation measures has not been programmed into the Preliminary Design stage because it is unlikely that the pivotal elements of the Preliminary Design will need to be changed in order to accommodate whatever mitigation method is chosen (from the designers' point of view, pivotal elements are issues such as bridge structures and tramstops).

Our intention is for the design teams to present the Preliminary Design for the Roseburn Corridor during October, and the feedback received from these meetings will help the designers to make progress on the Detailed Design. It is at this stage that the designers will turn their attention to specific mitigation measures, and we will then arrange separate meetings to enable the proposed measures to be presented to affected residents. The feedback received from these discussions will then help the designers to complete the Detailed Design.

The design team has asked me to emphasise their commitment to ongoing, productive consultation. Through focused discussion with residents on specific noise mitigation measures, they will strive to reach a solution that is both satisfactory to affected residents, and appropriate for the tram project. They will be open to the possibility of more than one consultation session on noise mitigation, if this is likely to help reach an agreement.

I hope that this will help to reassure you that there will be an opportunity for those residents who will be affected by noise mitigation measures to influence this aspect of the design.

Thank you for your reminder of the school holiday dates. The dates currently scheduled for Preliminary Design Consultation for the Roseburn Corridor do fall within this week, and so we will be offering a further meeting, to make sure that everyone who wishes to input into the design at

this stage has the opportunity to do so. You also asked about the public consultation events, and I can confirm that the event in your area is scheduled for the last week in October. These will be widely advertised nearer the time, and will be open to anyone who wishes to attend. The purpose of these events is the same as that for the frontager consultation: to present the Preliminary Design (by way of an exhibition of plans and drawings), to allow direct discussion between designers and members of the public, and to record feedback, to be taken into account during the final stages of the design process.

I trust this information is helpful in addressing your concerns, and we will look forward to meeting with you in October. If you have any further comments or queries in the meantime, however, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Kind regards,

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From: RASM Bourne [mailto:[rasmbourne@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:rasmbourne@[REDACTED])]
Sent: 20 September 2006 23:46
To: Samantha Kelly
Cc: andy.conway@edinburgh.gov.uk
Subject: Noise Mitigation Measures

Dear Sam

Thank you for your letter, dated 18 September 2006, with which you enclosed the results of the noise monitoring survey, undertaken at my home, during July 2006.

The results confirm what I already know, having lived here for some 17 years, that this location is a quiet one, especially at night. The former railway corridor is now a shared cycleway/footpath and also a green wildlife corridor, so there is little to generate any significant noise levels. It is for this reason that many local residents are concerned about the impact of the tram proposals, particularly in relation to noise levels. I would remind you that tie's own EA (Nov 2003) stated that many of the properties that are adjacent to the Roseburn Corridor will be directly adversely affected by the tram scheme, with regard to increased noise levels.

I note from your covering letter that tie do not anticipate being in a position to discuss mitigation measures at the "meeting scheduled for October". I was not aware that a meeting had been scheduled for October and would be grateful if you could advise me of its details. I would be very concerned if tie was considering holding such meetings during the school break (13-23 October), as I am sure many residents may be away - I, myself, will be out of the country.

You also advise that a meeting to discuss noise mitigation will be offered later in the year. However, this is of great concern, as SDS stated at the previous residents' meetings that the subsequent detailed design meetings would show

what would essentially be the final scheme, with little opportunity for changes, given the very tight timescales involved.

I am very concerned to learn that the detailed design may be presented without full mitigation measures, such as noise control. When will such measures be incorporated into the detailed design? If the meetings to discuss noise mitigation do not take place until, say, November/December, what assurance can **tie** offer to residents that, should they find the suggested mitigation measures to be inadequate, there will be an opportunity for the detailed design to be altered accordingly?

I was interested to see the video footage of **tie**'s evidence to the Local Government and Transport Committee of 12 September in which **tie** advised that they had learned and were conscious of the importance of meaningful consultation. However, there is a concern that residents will simply be *told* what mitigation they can expect (probably the cheapest possible) and that there will be very little which they can do to remedy the situation, should they feel that changes to the design are required.

Finally, local residents have been asking when the meetings will take place to receive the community input to the detailed design and to raise points of local concern. Clearly, all communities through which the tram would run are likely to experience an impact, in addition to directly affected residents. However, no-one from the wider community has had an opportunity to express their opinion since the "Tramtime Consultation" over three years ago. I would be grateful if you would confirm when such a meeting is scheduled to take place and, again, whether it will be a meaningful consultation or whether the community can expect simply to be *told* what **tie** plan, but have little opportunity to bring about changes, should the detailed design be unsatisfactory to the community?

I would be grateful for your early response.

Regards.

Richard